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ABSTRACT

This lesson plan for teachers to use with students in junior English (American Literature and pre-college writing) seeks to span the gap between American Revolution-era literature and today's teenagers. The lesson plan advocates using music to span the gap. It presents a rationale, educational objectives, materials needed, and background information. It outlines in detail the literary selection to be read, writing prompts for each selection, the popular song to be listened to, and the literary terms considered. The paper includes an assignment to write a personal protest song; the lyrics of the popular songs used in the class, such as the Beatles' "Revolution" and James Brown's "Living in America"; and the author/educator's own "Declaration of Independence." (Contains 29 references.) (NKA)

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Protest Music of All Colors: Using Music to Connect  
Students to American Revolutionary Literature.

by Lori L. Fulton

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# **POP CULTURE CRACKS THE CANON: INCORPORATING AMERICA'S POP CULTURE INTO THE ENGLISH CLASSROOM**

National Council of Teachers of English

Baltimore, Maryland

November 18, 2001

1:45-3:00

## ***Protest Literature of the Dead Bald White Guys Meets Protest Music of All Colors Using Music to Connect Students to American Revolutionary Literature***

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### **Rationale:**

Students in junior English often have trouble relating to American Revolution-era literature. Because that time in U.S. history seems so far removed from their lives' experiences, one way to construct a bridge between the "dead bald white guys" (as my students call most of the Revolutionary authors, even women and those of color) and modern teenagers is through the use of music and the writing of personal declarations. Music, combined with the power of an individual quest for change, can help span that gap.

### **Objective:**

The student will be able to:

1. Understand how persuasive literature of the American Revolution period promoted change;
2. Identify social and cultural issues in modern teenagers' lives where change is needed;
3. Apply persuasive literary techniques when writing personal declarations of rights;
4. Identify persuasive techniques in writing;
5. Apply music to personal rights statements as campaign songs;
6. Present his/her personal declaration and campaign song; and
7. Appreciate how literature of the American past can relate to modern times.

### **Audience:**

Eleventh grade English III students (American literature and pre-college writing)

### **Materials:**

American literature textbook (we use McDougal, Litell's *The Language of Literature: American Literature*), CD/tape player, CD's or tapes, lyric sheets for songs, overhead projector and transparencies, and access to the internet.

### **Background:**

My students begin most of our class hours with a writing prompt on the overhead, which is always accompanied by music that relates to the theme of the writing. This prompt reflects the literature or concepts we will be working with in class that day. My students also enjoy sharing their prompts with classmates as we bridge prior knowledge to the day's objectives.

### Literature



1 “The Right to Be Free” (Historical background of the era)	List at least five things in your life right now (home, school, job, culture, relationships, laws) that you wish you could change. Explain why you wish you could change these. One example: Good grades + perfect attendance = no exams.	“Revolution” (The Beatles)	Historical context
2 “Speech in the Virginia Convention” (Patrick Henry)	Given the circumstances with our war on terrorism, would you fight for America if you were called to serve? Would you defend America’s right to be free?	“Freedom” (Jimi Hendrix)	Persuasive rhetoric, repetition, inductive and deductive reasoning, generalization, ethical/logical/emotional appeals, premise, elevated language, parallelism, rhetorical question
3 “Declaration of Independence” (Thomas Jefferson)	What rights do you believe teenagers should be entitled? What rights do you feel are denied you simply because of your age or fearfulness on the part of adults?	“Parents Just Don’t Understand” (D.J. Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince)	Preamble, parallelism, declaration
4 “The Declaration of the Rights of Woman” (Olympe de Gouges)	Do you believe that girls and guys are treated equally in our school? Defend your stance!	“I’m Just A Girl” (No Doubt)	(See above)

## Terms

5      “Letter to the Rev. Samson Occom” (Phillis Wheatley)

Should all people living in America, regardless of their background, be entitled to equal rights; should some

“Letter to John Adams”  
(Abigail Adams)

be given special treatment or less rights because of their color, socio-economic status, religion, gender, etc.?

6      “What is an American?”  
(Michel-Guillaume Jean de Crevecoeur)

Should America be considered the melting pot of the world? What might make a better metaphor?  
Explain your answer.

7      “Lecture to a Missionary”  
(Red Jacket)

Describe a time in your life when someone either stole or removed something that belonged to you without your permission. How did this make you feel? What did you do?

8.      “Stride Toward Freedom”  
(Martin Luther King, Jr.)

What is the best way to win a fight— with words or with fists? Which has worked for you?

9.      “Necessary to Protect Ourselves”  
(Malcolm X, from an interview With Les Crane”

Do we as Americans have the right to protect and defend ourselves should our government fail to do so? For example, should we be able to carry concealed weapons as a means of self-protection?

10     “I Am Joaquin/Yo Soy Joaquin”  
(Rudolfo Gonzales)

What traditions are maintained in your family, such as Christmas or birthdays? Which ones do you plan on keeping once you are out on your own?

“Who We Be”  
(DMX)

Epistle,  
figurative  
language

,  
metaphor,  
simile

“Living in America”  
(James Brown)

Essay, theme,  
contrast

Tone

“Indian  
Reservation”  
(Paul Revere  
and the  
Raiders)

“Pride (In the  
Name of Love)”  
(U2)

Context,  
argument

“Saturday  
Night Special”  
(Lynyrd Skynyrd)

Appeal

“Darkness of  
Greed” (Rage  
Against the  
Machine)

Epic poem,  
hero

# DECLARATION OF THE RIGHTS OF YOU and YOUR PERSONAL CAMPAIGN SONG

**You're mad as heck and you're not going to take it anymore!** Can't you just hear Twisted Sister's "We're Not Gonna Take It" playing in the background? Music and statements of rights have long been associated with creating greater ways of persuading people to transform thinking.

Your next assignment is to write a declaration of your personal rights and adopt a campaign song. You will then present your declaration and song before the class on \_\_\_\_\_. You will also hand in your declaration's final draft, a copy of the lyrics of your campaign song, and a minimum one page explanation of why you chose that tune.

## THE SCOOP

Using forceful language and logical organization, write a declaration of rights for **you**. This should include a brief declaration of your own personal freedoms, a listing of at least five complaints, and a concluding statement of independence. Within this framework you should offer examples of persuasive rhetoric, making an emotion, logical, and/or ethical appeal to your intended audience (presumably adults or authority figures). Write your own truth, **not** what you think others want to read.

When you have completed your declaration, find a song which you could use as campaign music to rally others to see your stance more clearly. For example, if your rights focus on driving and extending speed limits, you might use Sammy Hagar's "I Can't Drive 55." If your declaration concerns parental neglect and issues of divorce, you might consider Everclear's "Father of Mine." Or if you want the world to be a better place, how about John Mellencamp's "Peaceful World"? At any rate, you will need to submit clean lyrics of your song, plus a minimum one page explanation regarding that particular song's relationship to your rights. **Likewise, you may only play clean versions of songs in class!**

## RUBRIC

Points		Your Score
50	Declaration	
	Content	
	*persuasive techniques	
	*declaration of freedoms	
	*five complaints	
	*concluding statement of independence	
	Mechanics	
50	Song explanation	
	Content	
	Mechanics	
	Clean lyrics included	
50	Presentation	
	Persuasive techniques used	
	Played clean version of song	
	Discussed song's connection to rights	

150

Total:

**"Revolution"**  
**The Beatles 1967-1970.**  
**The Beatles**

You say you want a revolution  
Well you know  
we all want to change the world  
You tell me that it's evolution  
Well you know  
We all want to change the world  
But when you talk about destruction  
Don't you know you can count me out  
Don't you know it's gonna be alright  
Alright Alright

You say you got a real solution  
Well you know  
we'd all love to see the plan  
You ask me for a contribution  
Well you know  
We're doing what we can  
But when you want money for people with minds  
that hate  
All I can tell you is brother you have to wait  
Don't you know it's gonna be alright  
Alright Alright

You say you'll change the constitution  
Well you know  
we all want to change your head  
You tell me it's the institution  
Well you know  
You better free your mind instead  
But if you go carrying pictures of Chairman Mao  
You ain't going to make it with anyone anyhow  
Don't you know know it's gonna be alright  
Alright Alright

**"Living in America"**  
**Rocky IV Soundtrack**  
**James Brown**

Superhighways - coast to coast - easy takin' anywhere -  
On the transcontinental overload  
just slide behind the wheel.  
How does it feel when there's no destination that's too  
far  
And somewhere on the way  
you might find out who you are.

Living in America - eye to eye - station to station.  
Living in America - hand in hand - across the nation.  
Living in America - got to have a celebration - rock my  
soul!

Smokestack - fatback - many miles of railroad track.  
All-night radio keep on runnin' through your rock'n' roll  
soul.  
All-night diners keep you awake  
on black coffee and a hard roll.  
you might have to walk a fine line  
you might take a hard line  
But everybody's workin' overtime.

Living in America - eye to eye - station to station....

I live in America - I live in America - wait a minute -  
you may not be lookin' for the promised land  
But you might find it anyway.  
Under one of those old familiar names like;  
New Orleans - New Orleans  
Detroit City - Detroit City  
Dallas - Dallas  
Pittsburgh P. A. - Pittsburgh P. A.  
New York City - New York City  
Kansas City - Kansas City  
Atlanta - Atlanta.  
Chicago and L. A.

Living in America - hit me - living in America - living in  
America.  
I live in America - staying alive - we'll make the prime.  
I live in America - hey  
I know what it means.

Living in America - hit me - eye to eye - station to  
station.  
Living in America - so nice - would you better stop?  
Living in America - I feel good!

## **"Parents Just Don't Understand" Rocky IV Soundtrack James Brown**

You know parents are the same no matter time nor place  
Tey don't understand that us kids are gonna make some mistakes  
So to you, all the kids all across the land  
There's no need to argue, parents just don't understand

I remember one year  
My mom took me school shopping  
It was me, my brother, my mom, oh, my pop, and my little sister  
All hopped in the car  
We headed downtown to the Gallery Mall  
MY mom started bugging with the clothes she chose  
I didn't say nothing at first  
I just turned up my nose  
She said, "What's wrong? This shirt cost \$20"  
I said, "Mom, this shirt is plaid with a butterfly collar!"  
The next half hour was the same old thing  
My mother buying me clothes from 1963  
And then she lost her mind and did the ultimate  
I asked her for Adidas and she bought me Zips!  
I said, "Mom, what are you doing, you're ruining my rep"  
She said, "You're only sixteen, you don't have a rep yet"  
I said, "Mom, let's put these clothes back, please"  
She said "no, you go to school to learn not for a fashion show"  
I said, "This isn't Sha Na Na, come on Mom, I'm not Bowzer  
Mom, please put back the bell-bottom Brady Bunch trousers  
But if you don't want to I can live with that but  
You gotta put back the double-knit reversible slacks"  
She wasn't moved - everything stayed the same  
Inevitably the first day of school came  
I thought I could get over, I tried to play sick  
But my mom said, "No, no way, uh-uh, forget it"  
There was nothing I could do, I tried to relax  
I got dressed up in those ancient artifacts

And when I walked into school, it was just as I thought  
The kids were cracking up laughing at the clothes Mom bought  
And those who weren't laughing still had a ball  
Because they were pointing and whispering  
As I walked down the hall  
I got home and told my Mom how my day went  
She said, "If they were laughing you don't need them,  
cause they're not good friends"  
For the next six hours I tried to explain to my Mom  
That I was gonna have to go through this about 200 more times  
So to you all the kids all across the land  
There's no need to argue  
Parents just don't understand

Oh-kay, here's the situation  
My parents went away on a week's vacation and  
They left the keys to the brand new Porsche  
Would they mind?  
Umm, well, of course not  
I'll just take it for a little spin  
And maybe show it off to a couple of friends  
I'll just cruise it around the neighborhood  
Well, maybe I shouldn't  
Yeah, of course I should  
Pay attention, here's the thick of the plot  
I pulled up to the corner at the end of my block  
That's when I saw this beautiful girlie girl walking  
I picked up my car phone to perpetrate like I was talking  
You should've seen this girl's bodily dimensions  
I honked my horn just to get her attention  
She said, "Was that for me?"  
I said, "Yeah"  
She said, "Why?"  
I said, "Come on and take a ride with a helluva guy"  
She said, "How do I know you're not sick?  
You could be some deranged lunatic"  
I said, "C'mon toots - my name is the Prince =  
Beside, would a lunatic have a Porsche like this?"  
She agreed and we were on our way  
She was looking very good and so was I, I must say - word  
We hit McDonald's, pulled into the drive  
We ordered two Big Macs and two large fries with Cokes

She kicked her shoes off onto the floor  
She said, "Drive fast, speed turns me on"  
She put her hand on my knee, I put my foot on the gas  
We almost got whiplash, I took off so fast  
The sun roof was open , the music was high  
And this girl's hand was steadily moving up my thigh  
She had opened up three buttons on her shirt so far  
I guess that's why I didn't notice that police car  
We're doing ninety in my Mom's new Porsche  
And to make this long story short - short  
When the cop pulled me over I was scared as hell  
I said, "I don't have a license but I drive very well, officer"  
I almost had a heart attack that day  
Come to find out the girl was a twelve-year-old runaway  
I was arrested, the car was impounded  
There was no way for me to avoid being grounded  
My parents had to come off from vacation to get me  
I'd rather be in jail than to have my father hit me  
My parents walked in  
I got my grip, I said, "Ah, Mom, Dad, how was your trip?"  
They didn't speak - I said, "I want to plead my case"  
But my father just shoved me in the car by my face  
That was a hard ride home, I don't know how I survived  
They took turns - one would beat me while the other was driving  
I can't believe it, I just made a mistake  
Well parents are the same no matter time nor place  
So to you all the kids all across the land  
Take it from me, parents just don't understand.

### **"Saturday Night Special"** *Lynyrd Skynrd Box Set* **Lynyrd Skynrd**

Two feets they come a creepin  
like a black cat do  
and two bodies are layin' naked.  
Creeper think he got nothin' to lose.  
So he creeps into this house, yeah  
and unlocks the door  
and as a man's reaching for his trousers  
shoots him full of thirty-eight holes.

ERIC 's the Saturday night special  
ot a barrel that's blue and cold  
ain't good for nothin'

but put a man six feet in a hole

Big Jim's been drinkin' whiskey  
and playin' poker on a losin' night  
and pretty soon ol' Jim starts a thinkin'  
somebody been cheatin' and lyin'.  
So big Jim commence to fightin',  
I wouldn't tell you no lie.  
Big Jim done pulled his pistol,  
shot his friend right between the eyes.

It's the Saturday night special  
got a barrel that's blue and cold  
ain't good for nothin'  
but put a man six feet in a hole

Hand guns are made for killin',  
they ain't no good for nothin' else.  
And if you like to drink your whiskey  
you might even shoot yourself.  
So why don't we dump 'em people  
to the bottom of the sea  
before some ol' fool come around here,  
wanna shoot either you or me.

It's the Saturday night special  
you got a barrel that's blue and cold  
you ain't good for nothin'  
but put a man six feet in a hole

It's the saturday night special  
and I'd like to tell you what you could do with it  
and that's the end of the song

### **"Who We Be"** *The Great Depression* **DMX**

They don't knooooooow who we beee  
they don't knooooooow who we beee

what they dunno is ...  
the bull\*\*\* the drama  
the guns the armor  
the city the farmer  
the babies the mama  
the projects the drugs  
the children the thugs  
the tears the hugs  
the love the slugs  
the funerals the wakes

the churches the coffins  
the heartbroken mothas  
it happens too often  
the problems  
the things we use to solve them  
yonkers the bronx  
brooklyn harlem  
the hurt the pain  
the dirt the rain  
the jerk the fame  
the work the game  
the friends the foes  
the benz the hoes  
the studios the shows  
it comes and it goes  
the jealousy the envy  
the phony the friendly  
the one that gave em slugs  
the one who put em in me  
mistakes the grass  
too long to see  
the lawn mower sittin  
right next to the tree

what we seein' is..  
the streets the cops  
the system harrassment  
the obstacle get shot  
go ta jail or get ya a\*\* kicked  
the lawyers the part  
they are of the puzzle  
the release the wanted  
try not to get in trouble  
the snitchaz the eyes  
probation parole  
the new charge the bail  
the warrant the hold  
the cell the bust  
the ride up north  
the greens the boots  
the yard we fought  
the fightin the stabbin  
the pullin the grabbin  
the riots brawlin cappin'  
nobody knew wat happened  
and 2 years in a box  
the revenge the plots  
23 hours that's locked  
goin out like a shock  
the silence the dark  
mind so fragile  
wish that the streets

woulda took you when they had you  
the days the months  
the years despair  
one night on my knees here it comes  
for real

this here is all about..  
my wife my kids  
the life that i live  
thru the night i was his  
it was right what i did  
my ups and downs  
my slip my falls  
my trials and tribulations  
my heart my balls  
my mother my father  
i love em i hate em  
wish god i didn't have em  
but i'm glad that he made em  
the roaches the rats  
the strays the cats  
the guns knives and bats  
everytime we scrap  
the hustlin the dealin  
the robbin the stealin  
the sh\*\* hit the ceilin  
little boy with no feelin  
the frustration rage  
trapped inside a cage  
the beatin's till the age  
i carried a 12 gauge  
somebody stop me  
somebody come and get me  
little did i know the lord was ridin wit me  
the dark the light  
my heart the fight  
the wrong the right  
its gone AIGHT!

## "I Can't Drive 55"

*Anthology*

**Sammy Hagar**

One foot on the brake and one on the gas, hey!  
Well, there's too much traffic, I can't pass, no!  
So I tried my best illegal move  
Well, baby, black and white come and touched my  
groove again!  
Gonna write me up a 125  
Post my face wanted dead or alive  
Take my license, all that jive  
I can't drive 55! Oh No!  
Uh!

So I signed my name on number 24, hey!  
Yeah the judge said, "Boy, just one more  
We're gonna throw you're a\*\* in the city joint"  
Looked me in the eye, said, "You get my point?"  
I said Yea!, Oh yea!  
Write me up a 125  
Post my face wanted dead or alive  
Take my license, all that jive  
I can't drive 55!

Oh, yea!

I can't drive 55!  
I can't drive 55!  
I can't drive 55!  
I can't drive 55!  
Uh!

(Solo)

When I drive that slow, you know it's hard to steer.  
And I can't get get my care out of second gear.  
What used to take two hours now takes all day. Huh!  
It took me 16 hours to get to L.A.  
Gonna write me up a 125  
Post my face wanted dead or alive  
Take my license, all that jive  
I can't drive 55!

No, no no,  
I can't drive...  
(I can't drive 55!)  
I can't drive...  
(I can't drive 55!)  
I can't drive 55!

## Everclear

father of mine  
tell me where have you been  
you know i just closed my eyes  
my whole world disappeared  
father of mine  
take me back to the day  
when i was still your golden boy  
back before you went away

i remember blue skies  
walking the block  
i loved it when you held me high  
i loved to hear you talk  
you would take me to the movie  
you would take me to the beach  
you would take me to a place inside  
that is so hard to reach

father of mine  
tell me where did you go  
you had the world inside your hand  
but you did not seem to know  
father of mine  
tell me what do you see  
when you look back at your wasted life  
and you don't see me

i was ten years ole  
doing all that i could  
it wasn't easy for me  
to be a scared white boy  
in a black neighborhood  
sometimes you would send me a birthday card  
with a five dollar bill  
i never understood you then  
and i guess i never will

daddy gave me a name  
my dad he gave me a name  
then he walked away  
daddy gave me a name  
then he walked away  
my dad he gave me a name

father of mine  
tell me where have you been  
i just closed my eyes  
and the world disappeared  
father of mine  
tell me how do you sleep  
with the children you abandoned  
and the wife i saw you beat

i will never be safe  
i will never be sane

i will always be weird inside  
i will always be lame  
now i'm a grown man  
with a child of my own  
and i swear that i'm not going to let her know  
all the pain i have known

then he walked away  
daddy gave me a name  
then he walked away  
my dad he gave me a name  
then he walked away  
daddy gave me a name  
then he walked away  
my dad he gave me a name

then he walked away

### "Freedom" *Voodoo Child: The Jimi Hendrix Collection* Jimi Hendrix

You got my pride hanging out of my bed  
You're messing with my life, so I brought my lead  
Even messing with my children and you scream at my wife  
Get off of my back if you wanna get out of here alive

Freedom, that's what I want now  
Freedom, that's what I need now  
Freedom to live  
Freedom, so I can give

You got my heart, speak electric warrior  
You got my soul screaming and hollering  
You know you hooked my girlfriend  
You know the drugstore man  
Well I don't need it now  
Just trying to slap it out of her hand

Freedom, Freedom, so I can give  
Freedom, so I can live  
Freedom, that's what I need

You don't have to say that you love me  
If you don't mean it you better believe it  
If you need me or just want to bleed me  
Better stick your daggers in someone else,  
So I can leave  
Set me free

"I Just A girl"  
ERIC gic Kingdom

### No Doubt

Take this pink ribbon off my eyes  
I'm exposed  
And it's no big surprise  
Don't you think I know  
Exactly where I stand  
This world is forcing me  
To hold your hand

'Cause I'm just a girl, oh little ol' me  
Well Don't let me out of your sight  
Oh I'm just a girl, all pretty and petite  
So don't let me have any rights  
Oh... I've had it up to here!

The moment that I step outside  
So many reasons  
For me to run and hide  
I can't do the little things I hold so dear  
'Cause it's all those little things  
That I fear

'Cause I'm just a girl,  
I'd rather not be  
'Cause they won't let me drive  
Late at night  
Oh I'm just a girl,  
Guess I'm some kind of freak  
'Cause they all sit and stare  
With their eyes  
Oh I'm just a girl,  
Take a good look at me  
Just your typical prototype  
Oh... I've had it up to here!

Oh... am I making myself clear?  
I'm just a girl  
I'm just a girl in the world...  
That's all that you'll let me be!

Oh I'm just a girl, living in captivity  
Your rule of thumb  
Makes me worry some  
Woh I'm just a girl, what's my destiny?  
What I've succumbed to  
Is making me numb  
Oh I'm just a girl, my apologies  
What I've become is so burdensome  
Oh I'm just a girl, lucky me  
Twiddle-dum there's no comparison

Oh... I've had it up to!  
Oh... I've had it up to!!  
Oh oh oh oh ... I've had it up to here.

## **"Indian Reservation" The Legend of Paul Revere Paul Revere and the Raiders**

They took the whole Cherokee nation  
Put us on this reservation  
Took away our ways of life  
The tomahawk and the bow and knife  
Took away our native tongue  
And taught their English to our young  
And all the beads we made by hand  
Are nowadays made in Japan

Cherokee people, Cherokee tribe  
So proud to live, so proud to die

They took the whole Indian nation  
Locked us on this reservation  
Though I wear a shirt and tie  
I'm still part redman deep inside

Cherokee people, Cherokee tribe  
So proud to live, so proud to die

But maybe someday when they learn  
Cherokee nation will return, will return, will return, will return, will return

(Spoken:) AIDS is killing the entire African nation And a vaccine is still supposedly under preparation But these governments they don't mind the procrastination They say "We'll kill them off, take their land and go there for action."

My people's culture was strong, it was pure  
And if not for that white greed  
It would've endured  
My people were left with no choice but to decide  
To conform to a system  
Their minds enslaved  
Their souls encaged  
I feel the rage  
It's brutality can never be undone  
But the sun is not yet set  
The bass and drums and microphones a threat  
That's when ya investigate the crimes from the inside  
And see that they're responsible for genocide  
Responsible for genocide  
Responsible for genocide...

Ya cram ya culture down my throat  
Say I'm inferior when I find that I choke  
Ya fill my mind with a false sense of history  
And then you wonder why I have no identity?  
Well I'll strike a match and it'll catch and  
Spread the insight we need  
A tiny fire, burning bright  
Shedding light on the darkness of greed

A yes yes y'all  
And ya don't stop  
Shedding light on the darkness of greed

A yes yes y'all  
And ya don't stop  
Shedding light on the darkness of greed  
**"We're Not Gonna Take It"**  
**Big Hits and Nasty Cuts**  
**Twisted Sister**

OH WE'RE NOT GONA TAKE IT  
NO, WE AIN'T GONA TAKE IT  
OH WE'RE NOT GONA TAKE IT ANYMORE

WE'VE GOT THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE AND  
THERE AIN'T NO WAY WE'LL LOSE IT  
THIS IS OUR LIFE, THIS IS OUR SONG  
WE'LL FIGHT THE POWERS THAT BE JUST  
DON'T PICK OUR DESTINY 'CAUSE  
YOU DON'T KNOW US, YOU DON'T BELONG

OH WE'RE NOT GONA TAKE IT

## **"Darkness of Greed" The Crow: Original Motion Picture Soundtrack Rage Against the Machine**

Greed!  
Causing innocent blood to flow  
Entire culture, lost in the overthrow  
They came to seize and take whatever they please  
Then all they gave back was death and disease  
My people were left with no choice but to decide  
To conform to a system, responsible for genocide  
Responsible for genocide...

NO, WE AINT GONNA TAKE IT  
OH WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE IT ANYMORE

OH YOU'RE SO CONDESCENDING  
YOUR GALL IS NEVER ENDING  
WE DON'T WANT NOTHIN', NOT A THING FROM  
YOU

YOUR LIFE IS TRITE AND JADED  
BORING AND CONFISCATED  
IF THAT'S YOUR BEST, YOUR BEST WON'T DO

OH.....  
OH.....

WE'RE RIGHT/YEAH  
WE'RE FREE/YEAH  
WE'LL FIGHT/YEAH  
YOU'LL SEE/YEAH

OH WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE IT  
NO, WE AINT GONNA TAKE IT  
OH WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE IT ANYMORE

OH WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE IT  
NO, WE AINT GONNA TAKE IT  
OH WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE IT ANYMORE  
NO WAY!

OH.....  
OH.....

WE'RE RIGHT/YEAH  
WE'RE FREE/YEAH  
WE'LL FIGHT/YEAH  
YOU'LL SEE/YEAH

WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE IT  
NO, WE AINT GONNA TAKE IT

WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE IT ANYMORE  
WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE IT, NO!  
NO, WE AINT GONNA TAKE IT  
WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE IT ANYMORE

JUST YOU TRY AND MAKE US  
WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE IT  
COME ON  
NO, WE AINT GONNA TAKE IT  
YOU'RE ALL WORTHLESS AND WEAK  
WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE IT ANYMORE

NOW DROP AND GIVE ME TWENTY  
WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE IT

OH CRINCH PIN  
NO, WE AINT GONNA TAKE IT  
OH YOU AND YOUR UNIFORM  
WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE IT ANYMORE

**"Pride (In the Name of Love)"**  
***The Unforgettable Fire***  
**U2**

One man come in the name of love  
One man come and go  
One come he to justify  
One man to overthrow

In the name of love  
What more in the name of love  
In the name of love  
What more in the name of love

One man caught on a barbed wire fence  
One man he resist  
One man washed on an empty beach.  
One man betrayed with a kiss

In the name of love  
What more in the name of love  
In the name of love  
What more in the name of love

(nobody like you...)

Early morning, April 4  
Shot rings out in the Memphis sky  
Free at last, they took your life  
They could not take your pride

In the name of love  
What more in the name of love  
In the name of love  
What more in the name of love  
In the name of love  
What more in the name of love...

**"Peaceful World"**  
***Cuttin' Heads***  
**John Mellencamp**

Come on baby take a ride with me  
I'm up from Indiana down to Tennessee  
Everything is cool as can be  
In a peaceful world

People know this world is a wreck  
We're sick and tired of being politically correct  
If I see through it now but I didn't at first  
The hypocrites made it worse and worse  
Lookin' down their noses at what people say  
These are just words and words are okay

It's what you do and not what you say  
If you're not part of the future then get out of the way

Come on baby take a ride with me  
I'm up from Indiana down to Tennessee  
Everything is cool as can be  
In a peaceful world

Racism lives in the U.S. today  
Better get hip to what Martin Luther King had to say  
I don't want my kids being brought up this way  
Hatred to each other is not okay  
Well I'm not a preacher just a singer son  
But I can see more work to be done  
It's what you do and not what you say  
If you're not part of the future then get out of the way

Come on baby take a ride with me  
I'm up from Indiana down to Tennessee  
Everything is cool as can be  
In a peaceful world

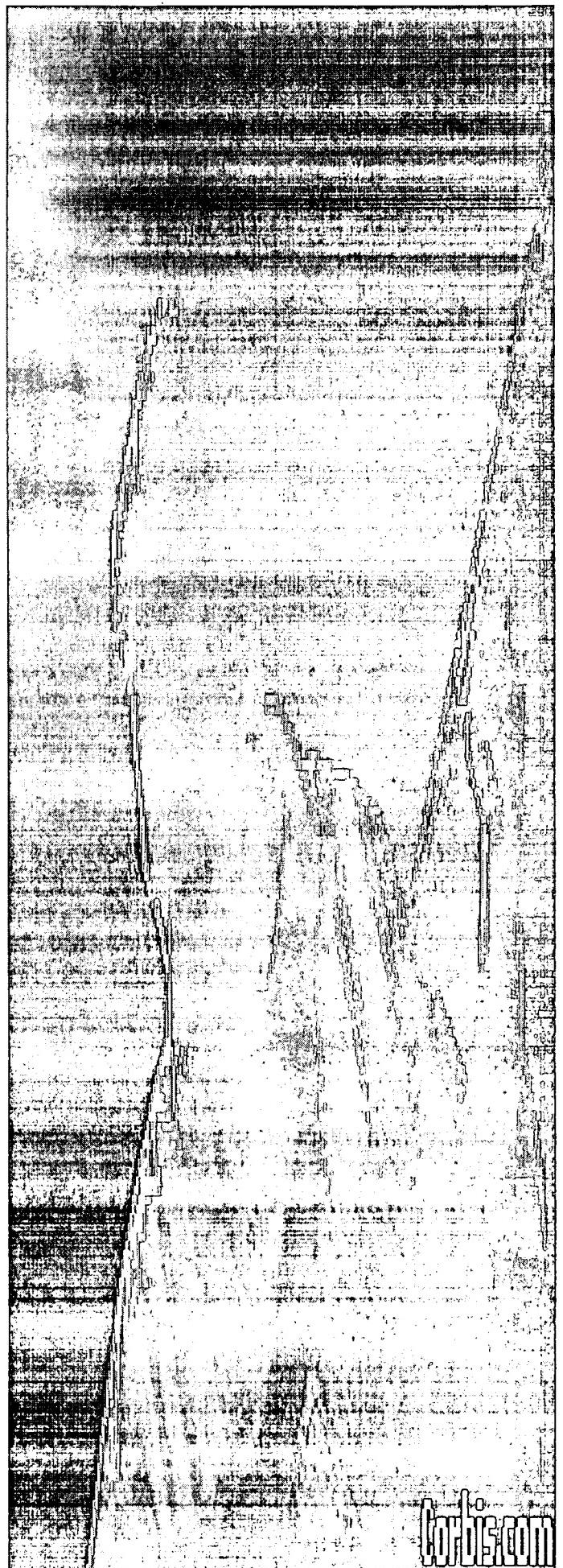
Lay back the top and ride with me  
I'm up from Indiana down to Tennessee  
Everything is cool as can be  
In a peaceful world

The money's good and the work is okay  
Looks like everything is rollin our way  
'Til you gotta look the devil in the eye  
You know that bastard's one big lie  
So be careful with your heart and what you love  
Make sure that it was sent from above  
It's what you do and not what you say  
If you're not part of the future then get out of the way

Come on baby take a ride with me  
I'm up from Indiana down to Tennessee  
Everything is cool as can be  
In a peaceful world

Lay back the top and ride with me  
I'm up from Indiana down to Tennessee  
Everything is cool as can be  
In a peaceful world

Hey yeah  
Hey yeah  
Hey yeah  
Hey yeah



# *A Declaration of the Rights of Fulton*

*One often does not take the time to voice her complaints until it is too late or too little. As humans, we find it comforting to sound our grievances to all except those who truly can promote the change we desire. Therefore, our true feelings are never expressed; they languish in the idle corners of coffee shops, they fester near the water cooler, and they swarm in the lunch room—but they rarely transform anyone.*

*It has become necessary to finally voice my own truth—*

*I want to live in a peaceful world. I have the right to make others happy, to teach students to love the beauty of a well-turned word and to laugh at themselves without self-reprisal. I have the right to sit in the quiet solitude of my backyard on a June night and look up at the sky, marveling at the wonder of this universe. I have the right to expect others to treat me with the same kindness and dignity that I use to treat them. I have the right to listen to loud music even as I approach the middle of my forties, no matter if the songs are oldies or modern. I have the right to act seventeen even if my skin is forty-five.*

*To all who at one time called themselves "human" --*

*I am tired of people who are mean to each other, who are too busy with their own egos that they lose sight of the beauty of human companionship, quiet walks in the woods, gentle laughter with friends, and the joy of meeting strangers who can open up worlds we never thought existed. My truth compels me to hold out my hands to catch the tears of those who hurt, to provide a strong beacon for those who are lost, and to lift up my voice to remind others that there is indeed some good left in humankind.*

*As humans, we have certain rights that we have long overlooked. We have the right to be fair and humane. For too long, we have denied this basic tenet. We fail to watch with awe as the sun turns a crimson violet hue at the end of the day. We forget to call our best friends for absolutely no reason except to hear their voices. We neglect to write long letters and instead find communication limited to quick e-mail transactions in the Morse code of cyber-linguistics. We espouse freedom and democracy, yet we kill each other over the most asinine things. We have lost sight of what it means to be peaceful.*

*Therefore—*

*As a member of the human race who cares about gentleness and empathy, I appeal to all my fellow beings to declare yourself "peaceful creatures." We must absolve ourselves from the shadow of meanness and*

*open our hearts to the potential good in all humankind. We must declare our intention to love each other more, care about material things much less, and to remember that we are all equally united in the heart of the world.*

*This so written is my declaration of rights—*

*Lori L. Fulton*

*10 November 2001*

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